

## QUESTION:

Samantha in Rhode Island asks, "My current Representative is disabled and I was wondering if there been other notable Representatives who have served with a disability?"

## ANSWER:

Yes, there have been many examples of Members of the House who performed their duties as Representatives and also had a disability. Most of the Members who served with a disability were disabled by injuries received while fighting for our Country. The majority of that group were disabled by wounds from the Civil War. The earliest known disabled Member of the House was Representative Peleg Tallman (MA), who served one term (1811-1813). Tallman had lost an arm in the Revolutionary War. Below are other notable examples.

### 1. The Civil War Disabled members:

Representative Roswell Peter Bishop (MI) 1895-1907: lost his right arm in Civil War  
Representative William Huggins Brawley (SC) 1891-1894: lost an arm in Civil War  
Representative Charles Elwood Brown (OH) 1885-1889: lost a leg in Civil War  
Representative Allen Daniel Candler (GA) 1883-1891: lost an eye in Civil War;  
Representative Samuel Jackson Gholson (MS) 1836-37/1837-39: lost an arm in Civil War  
Representative James McCleery (LA) 1871: lost his right arm in Civil War  
Representative David Bremner Henderson (IA) 1883-1903: lost a leg in Civil War  
Representative Daniel Edgar Sickles (NY) 1857-61/1893-95: lost a leg in Civil War  
Representative John W. Daniel (VA) 1885-1887: crippled in Civil War; called the "Lame Lion"

### 2. Other Members disabled during military service:

Representative Laurence Curtis (MA) 1953-1963: lost a leg during Navy training  
Representative Daniel Ken Inouye (HI) 1959-1963: lost right arm during WWII  
Representative William Jennings Miller (CT) 1939-1941: lost both legs in WWI  
Representative Charles Edward Porter (MI) 1952-1959: lost both legs in WWII  
Representative John Bell Williams (MS) 1947-1968: lost lower left arm in WWII  
Representative Bob Dole (KS) 1961-1969: partly lost use of right arm in WWII

### 3. Other Disabled Members:

Representative Arthur William Aleshire (OH) 1937-1939: legs were paralyzed from an accident  
Representative Matthew Anthony Dunn (PA) 1933-1941: Blind since he was 20  
Representative Nehemiah Hezekiah Earll (NY) 1839-1841: Blind  
Representative David McKee Hall (NC) 1959-1960: Paraplegic

Representative John Pope (KY) 1837-1843: lost his right arm as a youth

Representative Thomas David Schall (MN) 1915-1925: Blind from electric shock in 1907

Representative Morris King Udall (AZ) 1961-1991: lost an eye as a boy

Representative Jim Langevin (RI) 2001-present: paralyzed from the waste down from an accidental shooting when he was 16